

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

**PCT**

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**  
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

<p>Applicant's or agent's file reference see form PCT/ISA/220</p>		<p>Date of mailing (day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)</p>	
<p>International application No. PCT/EP2004/011364</p>		<p>International filing date (day/month/year) 06.10.2004</p>	<p>Priority date (day/month/year) 08.10.2003</p>
<p>International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C07D213/55, C07D241/24, C07D239/28, C07D237/24, C07D213/64, C07D213/61, C07C63/68, C07C233/54,</p>			
<p>Applicant GLAXO GROUP LIMITED</p>			

**1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:**

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

**2. FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

**3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.**

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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**Box No. I Basis of the opinion**

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
  - This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. **type of material:**
    - a sequence listing
    - table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. **format of material:**
    - in written format
    - in computer readable form
  - c. **time of filing/furnishing:**
    - contained in the international application as filed.
    - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
    - furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3.  In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. **Additional comments:**

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**Box No. II Priority**

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1.  The following document has not been furnished:

- copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).
- translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2.  This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3.  It has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim because a copy of the priority document was not available to the ISA at the time that the search was conducted (Rule 17.1). This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

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**Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability**

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- the entire international application,
- claims Nos. 8-12 (with respect to industrial applicability)

because:

- the said international application, or the said claims Nos. 8-12 relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):

**see separate sheet**

- the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (specify):
- the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
- no international search report has been established for the whole application or for said claims Nos.
- the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions in that:

the written form

- has not been furnished
- does not comply with the standard

the computer readable form

- has not been furnished

- does not comply with the standard

- the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-*bis* of the Administrative Instructions.

- See separate sheet for further details

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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or  
industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-15
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-15
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-7,13-15
	No: Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations**

**see separate sheet**

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**Box No. VI Certain documents cited**

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1. Certain published documents (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.10)  
and / or
2. Non-written disclosures (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.9)

**see form 210**

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**Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application**

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The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

**see separate sheet**

**Re Item III**

**Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability**

Claims 8-12 relate to subject-matter considered by this Authority to be covered by the provisions of Rule 67.1(iv) PCT. Consequently, no opinion will be formulated with respect to the industrial applicability of the subject-matter of these claims (Article 34(4)(a)(I) PCT).

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

D1: US-A-5 663 180 (REITZ DAVID B ET AL) 2 September 1997 (1997-09-02)

**Novelty**

Document D1 discloses antiinflammatory cyclopentene compounds from which the compounds of present claim 1 differ in that they have an additional bridging group "Z" selected from oxygen or (oxidised) sulfur (see column 1, lines 11-14; column 1, lines 55-59; column 2, formula I; Examples).

In view of this prior art, novelty has to be acknowledged for the subject-matter of present independent claims 1 and 7-12 and present dependent claims 2-6.

**Inventive step**

The distinguishing feature between the novel subject-matter and D1 is the presence of an additional bridging group selected from the Group VI elements oxygen and sulfur.

In the absence of any evidence for an unexpected technical effect linked to this feature, the objective problem underlying the novel subject-matter can merely be seen as the provision of further antiinflammatory compounds.

The claimed solution to this very general problem was the modification of the compounds of D1 by insertion of an additional bridging group "Z" selected from the Group VI elements oxygen and sulfur.

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However, since this solution was not foreshadowed in the prior art on file, the presence of inventive step has to be acknowledged for the novel subject-matter, even in the absence of a technical effect.

**Industrial applicability**

There is no doubt that the subject-matter of the present claims 1-7 and 13-15 is industrially applicable.

However, for the assessment of the present claims 8-12 on the question whether they are industrially applicable, no unified criteria exist in the PCT Contracting States. The patentability can also be dependent upon the formulation of the claims. The EPO, for example, does not recognize as industrially applicable the subject-matter of claims to the use of a compound in medical treatment, but may allow, however, claims to a known compound for first use in medical treatment and the use of such a compound for the manufacture of a medicament for a new medical treatment.

**Re Item VI**

**Certain documents cited**

**Certain published documents**

Application No Patent No	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (valid claim) (day/month/year)
WO-A-03084917	16 October 2003	7 April 2003	8 April 2002 7 February 2003

**Re Item VIII**

**Certain observations on the international application**

The following terms lack clarity: "optionally substituted" (claims 1, 3); "derivatives thereof" (claims 1, 3, 5, 6); "pharmaceutically acceptable derivative" (claims 7, 11, 12).

Although in the present claim 1 the terms "(hetero)aryl", "bicyclic heterocyclyl group", "alk(en)yl", "heterocyclyl", "alkoxy" and their variations are clear as such, they introduce obscurity in that they unduly extend the scope of the claimed subject-matter (breadth of the claim).

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Claims 8-15 comprise too many independent claims per category (compound, method use).